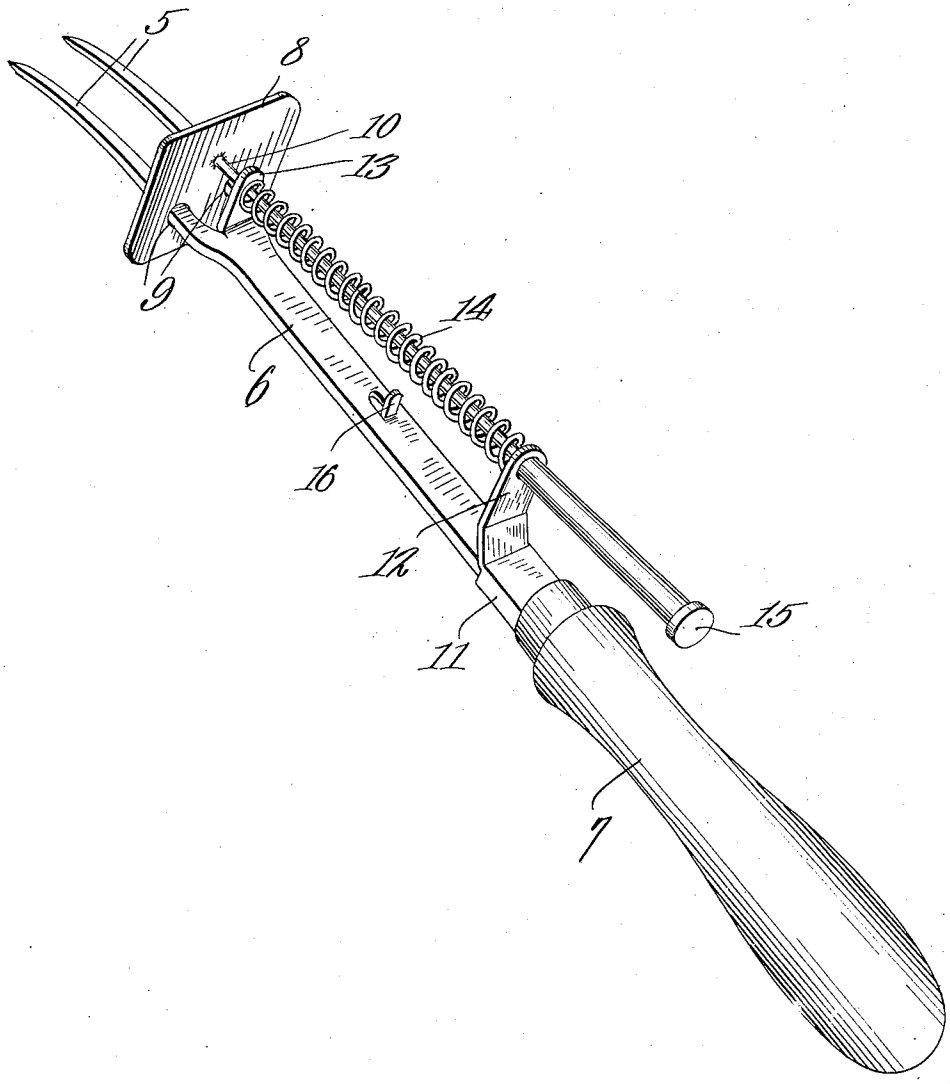
S. B. WILLIAMS.

FORK.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 30, 1915.

1,172,333. Patented Feb. 22, 1916.



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FORK.

1,172,333. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 22, 1916.

Application filed April 30, 1915. Serial No. 24,992.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL B. WILLIAMS, citizen of the United States, residing at St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Forks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to forks for culinary or table use which are provided with an attachment for removing from the prongs the article stuck thereon without touching such article with the hands.

The invention has for its object to provide a novel and improved attachment of the kind stated which is easy to operate, and which allows the fork to be held and handled in the ordinary manner.

The invention also has for its object to provide a structure which enables the attachment to be readily applied to any ordinary fork without modifying the structure of the latter.

With the herein stated objects in view, the invention consists in a combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which a perspective view of the device is shown.

Referring specifically to the drawing, 5 denotes the prongs of the fork, the same having an elongated shank 6 provided with a handle 7. On the prongs is slidably mounted a push plate 8, said plate having eyes 9 through which the prongs loosely pass. This plate is normally positioned near the inner ends of the prongs and upon advancing the same, the meat or other article stuck on the prongs is pushed off the same.

The plate 8 is operated by a rod 10 fastened to the back of the same and extending rearward along the back of the shank 6 toward the handle 7, and in spaced relation to said shank. On the butt end of the shank is mounted a slide 11 having an upstanding perforated ear 12 through which the rear end of the rod passes. On the forward end of the shank is a guide ear 13 for the corresponding end of the rod, said ear having a perforation through which the rod loosely passes and in which it is guided. The perforations in the ears are located to suitably space the rod from the shank.

Between the ears 12 and 13 a spring 14 is coiled around the rod 10, and behind the ear 12 the rod has a head or enlargement 15 abutting against said ear. The ear 12 is therefore located between the head 15 and the rear end of the spring, the forward end of the spring bearing against the ear 13. Between the slide 11 and the ear 13, the shank 6 has an abutment 16 for limiting the forward movement of the slide.

The spring 14 normally holds the plate 8 retracted, and upon pushing forward against the head 15, the slide 11 and the rod move forward to advance the plate along the prongs 5 toward the outer ends thereof for the purpose stated. Upon releasing the head 15, the spring returns the parts to their normal retracted position. The attachment is easy to operate, the thumb of the hand which grips the handle 7 being free to push against the head 15 to advance the plate 8 as described.

I claim:

The combination with a fork comprising a handle, a shank carried by the handle and prongs at the outer end of the shank; of a push plate slidably mounted on the prongs, said plate having eyes through which the prongs loosely pass, a rod connected to the back of the plate and extending rearward along the shank toward the handle, a slide mounted on the shank, said slide having an outstanding perforated ear through which the rod passes, a head on the rear end of the rod abutting against the ear, an outstanding perforated ear on the shank through which the forward end of the rod passes, and a spring coiled around the rod between the ears for holding the rod normally retracted.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL B. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:
LOUIS M. HASTINGS,
SARA E. KRIHA.